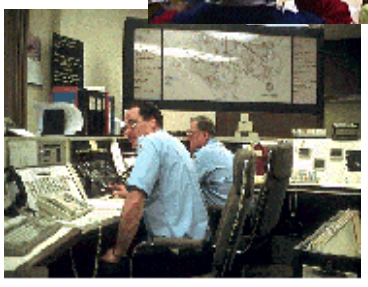
Edgewood Area - Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21010-5424
U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command

ADASHI
A Training Tool for CB Defense

The Automated Decision Aid System for Hazardous Incidents (ADASHI) is a unique, portable, computer-based integrated decision-aid support system for improving the response to hazardous or chemical/biological (CB) incidents by military and civilian responders. ADASHI is in the advanced developmental stage. The incident commander can use ADASHI at the incident site or it can be used at the higher echelon operation centers to actively support decision makers. This tool can support individual and collective training at team locations and at the responder's home. ADASHI is designed to function on laptops and desktop computers, providing user flexibility and portability to remote locations. The software architecture can be adapted to support advanced distributed learning strategies.

ADASHI effectively integrates the specific technical functions required to manage a hazardous incident or Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) event. Those functions include but are not limited to initial hazard assessment, hazard source analysis, mitigation alternatives, physical protection requirements, decontamination methods, hazard area prediction, detection planning and sampling, medical treatment, and triage criteria. Specific functional inputs are integrated with decision criteria enhancing response management in a crisis situation. ADASHI is automatically monitoring the essential aspects of an event, whether it be a “what if” simulated event for training purposes or a real event.

ADASHI's automated multifunction tracking and monitoring can be used as a training tool where individual data inputs can influence a WMD training scenario outcome. The trainee must select a specific operational option to mitigate the effects of the incident. ADASHI’s expert system can then help determine the scope of operational alternatives available and query the trainee using direct questions, memory prompts, etc., to help in making an informed decision. The expert database structure alleviates the training burden by offering in electronic format the volumes of disparate reference material. Team leaders and members can perform "trial and error" learning free from criticism while they build confidence and expertise without compromising the confidence that their team has in them.



ADASHI can be used to augment the traditional 'table-top training' by providing automated tracking of decisions and making projections of the consequences of those decisions as they impact on the situation and the response resources available. ADASHI is to be used as an "over the shoulder" decision-support system to aid incident commanders in making better, more timely decisions by rapidly processing the multivariate input data and providing critical information to that incident commander or team leader in a high-stress environment. It can also be exploited as a powerful training tool to significantly improve the multidisciplined emergency response team's readiness for CB release incidents. It is anticipated that a version of ADASHI will be available for release in approximately 18 months.

For additional information, please send E-mail to (homeland.defense@sbccom.apgea.army.mil) or call (410) 436-1915 or DSN 584-1915. For information on the Homeland Defense Business Unit, Edgewood CB Center, please visit our web site at: http://hld.sbccom.apgea.army.mil .

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